

OPEN TIMBER ROOFS.

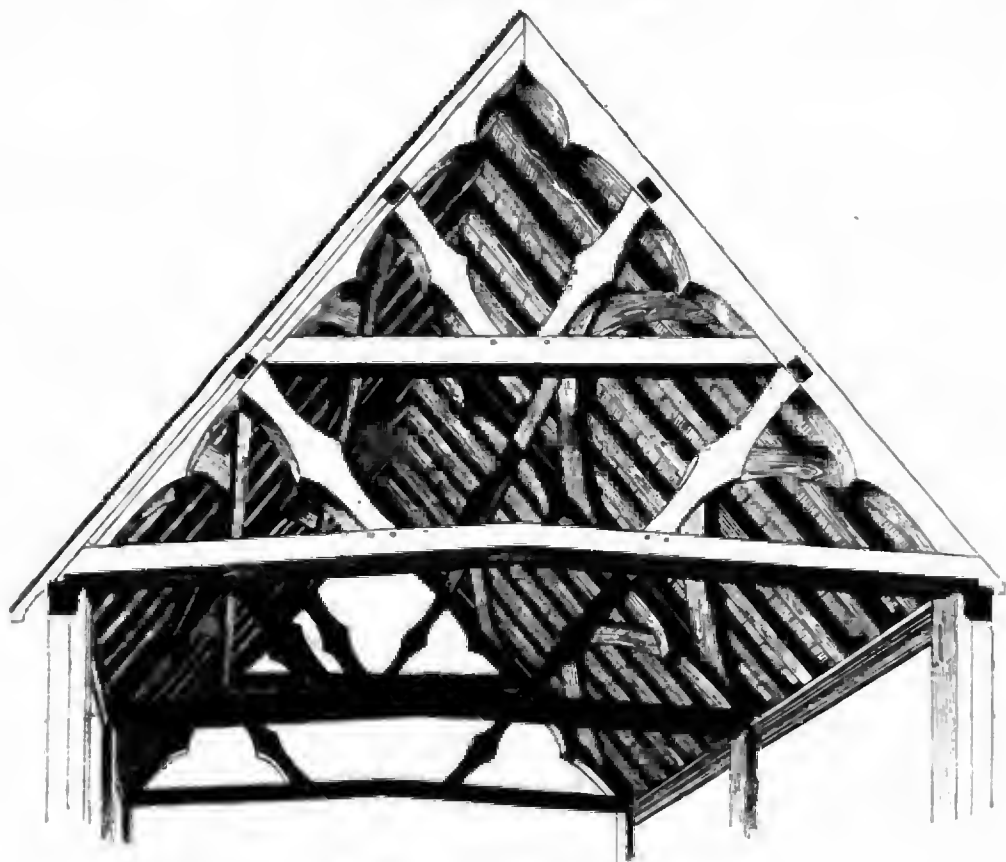


Fig. 3.—AT THE OLD DEANERY, WORCESTER.



Fig. 4.—WILSHAMSTEAD CHURCH, NEAR BEDFORD.

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CONTINUING our examples of open timber roofs, we give to-day, fig. 3, the roof from the hall of the old deanery at Worcester, dating about 1350. It was simple, and had a very good effect. We say had, because three days after the

sketches for our engraving were taken, the whole of this portion of the building was removed. The roof itself was ticketed "for sale," but we are not aware if there were any purchasers for it. The length of the hall was about 55 feet; its height, from floor to soffit of tie-beam, in the centre, 12 feet.

The first timber in our engraving is drawn to a scale of a quarter of an inch to the foot; but as the scantlings of the various timbers may be useful to our readers, we subjoin them:—

The beam, 12 in. by 11 in. deep; principal rafter, 7 in. thick; collar beam, 8 in. by 7 in. thick; struts, 6 in. by 6 in. in the narrowest part; purlins, 7 in. by 5 in.; braces, 11 in. by 2 in.; common rafters, 5 in. by 4 in. (5 in. being the width).

Of these latter there are five and two half ones, between each principal. A roof of similar construction, but exceedingly rich and beautiful, is still in existence at this same building: it belongs to what formerly was the "Guestin Hall," which has been for many years divided into different floors, for modern convenience. This building was some time ago carefully measured by Mr. Harvey Eginton, Architect, of Worcester, who at the same time published a view, showing how he proposed to restore this fine old hall to its ancient grandeur. We hope, before long, to hear that his designs are being carried into execution.

Fig. 4 is the nave roof of the church, dedicated to "All Saints," at Wilshamstead, a village about four miles south of Bedford. This belongs to the perpendicular period.

TO THE DISTRICT SURVEYOR OF SOUTH KENSINGTON.—Mr. Editor, for the sake of her Majesty's lieges, do pray call the attention of the district-surveyor of South Kensington to some buildings now going up in the Kensington High-road, opposite Kensington-gardens. More than one fall has already occurred there! As an old inhabitant of Kensington, I grieve to see this charming neighbourhood disfigured by such structures; but for this I suppose there is no remedy. Sound construction, however, may surely be insisted on under the Buildings Act. A MAGISTRATE.